

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

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INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MINAIL 7323

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNDP, AORG

SUBJECT: UNDP - 18TH GOVERNING COUNCIL - ITEM 12: TECHNICAL

COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

1. DRAFT DECISION TRANSMITTED REFTEL (B) IS RESULT OF EXTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS WITH GROUP OF 77 SPONSORS IN WHICH US DEL AND OTHER WEOS PRESSED HARD FOR GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH PRINCIPLES OF WORKING GROUP REPORT DP/69 AND AVOIDANCE OF ENDORSEMENT OF SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS. AT ONE POINT G 77 MEMBERS CUT OFF NEGOTIATIONS THREATENING TO GO DIRECTLY TO ECOSOC AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR ENDORSEMENT OF REPORT BECAUSE A STATEMENT BY ADMINISTRATOR PETERSON WAS INTERPRETED BY THE GROUP AS BEING COMPLETELY UNCONNECTED WITH MAIN PROPOSALS OF WORKING GROUP THUS "CHANGING THE WHOLE BALL GAME."

2. AFTER SEVERAL HOURS OF MEETINGS WITH PETERSON, PATEL, AND MEMBERS OF GROUP 77, US DEL PERSUADED THEM ALL TO MEET AND ENDEAVOR ARRIVE AT CLEARER UNDERSTANDING OF PETERSON'S ACTUAL POSITION. MEETING WAS HELD DURING INTERLUDE IN US DEL RECEPTION LAST NIGHT A FEW HOURS BEFORE PETERSON'S DEPARTURE THIS MORNING. SESSION, WHICH WAS HELD ONLY BECAUSE OF US PERSISTANT NEGOTIATIONS, CLEARED THE AIR CONSIDERABLY, BUT THIS MORNING G 77 STILL
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UNWILLING TO ACCEPT SIMPLE FORMULA PROPOSED BY PETERSON TO

ENDORSE THE PRINCIPLES IN THE REPORT AND LEAVE THE DETAILS OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION TO THE ADMINISTRATION. AS RESULT FURTHER INTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS TODAY, DRAFT FINALLY AGREED TO THIS AFTER-NOON.

3. G 77 SPOKESMEN ASSURED US DEL AND OTHERS THE WORDING IN PRESENT DRAFT LEAVES ACTION ON THE REPORT IN THE HANDS OF UNDP, DOES NOT REQUIRE THE ADMINISTRATOR TO IMPLEMENT THE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS AND DOES NOT CALL ON ECOSOC OR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO TAKE SPECIFIC ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THE REPORT. CLARLY THESE INTERPRETATIONS TAKE CONSIDERABLE LIBERTY WITH THE WORDING OF THE DECISION IN A NUMBER OF PLACES, BUT FURTHER CHANGES SEEM IMPOSSIBLE.

4. DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR PATEL INFORMED THE US DEL HE COULD ACCEPT THE LANGUAGE ON BEHALF OF THE ADMINISTRATOR.

5. THE ALTERNATIVE TO ALLOWING THIS WORDING TO BE AGREED TO BY CONSENSUS WAS TO TRANSMIT THE REPORT TO ECOSOC AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY INTACT. THIS WOULD HAVE OPENED THE PROBABILITY THAT THESE BODIES WOULD BE PRESSURED BY G 77 TO ACCEPT ALL THE CONTROVERSIAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUIRE ADMINISTRATOR TO IMPLEMENT THEM.

6. COMMENT: TENSIONS AT INTRODUCTION THIS ISSUE EVEN GREATER THAN CONFRONTATION WITH AFRICAN GROUP AT 17TH SESSION. ALL PARTIES AGREE THAT STRONG, PERSISTENT US INITIATIVES WRESTED CONSENSUS FROM OMINOUS SITUATION.
SULLIVAN

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